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Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine  
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PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA

Amended Regulations Governing Importation of Potatoes

(Decree No. 115748 of Oct. 4, 1937)

Article 1. Articles 55 to 59 of decree No. 83732 of June 3, 1936, promulgating regulations under Law No. 4084 (see pp. 21 and 22, B. E. P. Q.--426) are amended to read as follows:

Certification of Seed Potatoes

"Art. 55. Every shipment of potatoes introduced into Argentina, besides meeting the general conditions established by these regulations, shall be accompanied by the following certificates:

"SEED POTATOES: Certificate of healthy origin and phytosanitary shipping certificate (inspection certificate). In the first, it is necessary to affirm, besides what is prescribed in article 8, that the crops from which the tubers proceed are found free from potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum (Schilb.) Perc.); potato tuber worm (Gnorimoschema operculella Zell.); Colorado potato beetle (Leptinotarsa decemlineata Say); and "virus diseases", allowing a tolerance up to 2 percent for the last."

POTATOES FOR CONSUMPTION: Phytosanitary Shipping Certificate

"Art. 56. Shipments of such potatoes shall meet the following conditions: (a) (1) They shall be well formed; (2) clean; (3) free from tubers having mechanical lesions or those caused by insects or other means; (4) free from internal changes of whatever origin; (5) tubers exposed to the sun, flaccid ones; (6) sprouted tubers; (7) scabby potatoes; (8) tubers with dry spots or rots; and (9) must be free from any serious disease or parasite that does not occur in Argentina.

"(b) Judgment of defects, lesions, or diseases referred to in paragraph (a) will be made by taking into account their intensity and seriousness and their effect upon the general appearance of the tubers in accordance with the following criteria:

"(1) GOOD SHAPE: When the appearance of each tuber, or the general appearance, is not marred by excessively pointed or constricted tubers or those with secondary growths or excrescences;

"(2) Cleanliness: When the general appearance of the tubers is not obviously affected by soil or dirt of any kind;

"(3) Tubers that are bruised, cut, cracked, punctured, etc., to such an extent that the lesions manifestly injure each tuber;

"(4) Hollow heart, black heart, or any abnormal discoloration of the tuber;

"(5) Tubers that are old and clearly found to be soft and spongy;

"(6) Sprouted tubers; when more than 10 percent have sprouts exceeding 1.5 cm in length;

"(7) Tubers attacked by common scab (Actinomyces scabies (Thax.) Guss.), black scab (Rhizoctonia solani Kuhn), etc., to such an extent that the lesions seriously affect the tuber;

"(8) Any decomposition of tubers, total or partial, due to any cause whatever;

"(9) Synchytrium endobioticum, Gnorimoschema operculella, etc.

#### Tolerances

"(c) Within the criteria set forth in the preceding paragraphs, a tolerance is allowed of 5 percent in seed potatoes and 10 percent in potatoes for consumption in the aggregate of defects, lesions, and common diseases. Among those percentages, only 1 percent of tubers affected by rot may be included, no tolerance being allowed for diseases and pests that do not occur in Argentina.

"(d) The percentages of tolerance are calculated in the following manner: A determined number of packages is inspected in each shipment, and the percentage of tubers attacked is ascertained in each of them by weight; those percentages having been obtained, the average is calculated and applied to the whole shipment as the basis of tolerance.

"(e) Shipments that exceed the tolerances established in paragraph (c) will be subject to selection (culling) or to disinfection, as the respective sanitary authorities may decide, charging the expenses thus arising to the account of the interested person. Shipments found to be attacked by dangerous diseases or pests that do not occur in Argentina will be reladen or destroyed, in accordance with the provisions of article 5, the cost thereof being charged to the account of the interested person.

#### Conditions under which Seed Potatoes May Be Imported

"Art. 57. Tubers intended for planting must meet the following conditions:

"(a) The importation of certified potatoes only will be permitted, that is, they must proceed from crops recorded by the special seed-potato certifying services, crops that are subject to supervision by preestablished agencies of the national or state governments or of official experiment stations of the countries of origin;

"(b) The potatoes shall arrive in cases weighing 50 kg net, having a partition in the middle, each case bearing a certification tag (or ticket) approved by the official service that issued it. Each tag will state that the seed potatoes are 'certified' and indicate also the name of the grower, the variety, and the place of origin;

"(c) The minimal weight of potatoes intended for planting shall be 40 gm, with a tolerance up to 5 percent in the weight of smaller tubers.

#### Conditions under which Potatoes for Consumption May Be Imported

"Art. 58. Tubers intended for consumption shall meet the following conditions:

"(a) They shall come in containers not exceeding 60 kg net weight, each bearing the printed inscription 'PAPAS PARA CONSUMO' (potatoes for consumption) in quite legible characters, as well as the name of the variety.



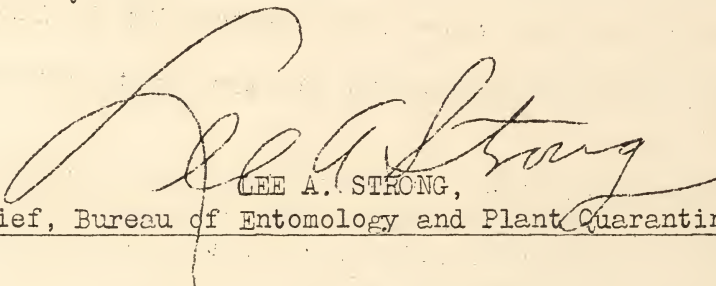
"(b) The weight of the tubers shall not be less than 60 gm, a tolerance up to 5 percent by weight of smaller potatoes being allowed.

Authorized Ports of Entry for Potatoes

"Art. 59. Potatoes may be imported only through the ports of Buenos Aires and Rio Gallegos."

NOTE:

In the absence of definite information concerning potato diseases and insect pests that do not occur in Argentina, inspectors should be guided by the list furnished in the original article 56, page 21 of B. E. P. Q.--426.

  
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